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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/682,187	CAZAUX ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Suezu Ellis	2878	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to after-final amendment filed January 19, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-7,10,12,13,15,17,19 and 21.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

Drawings

The drawings were received on January 19, 2006. These drawings are acceptable.

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with James Morris (Reg. No. 34,681) on January 31, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 12, replace "the other terminal" with --another terminal--.

In claim 3, lines 1-2, replace "a constant current source" with --the constant current source--.

Claim 11 has been cancelled.

Claim 16 has been cancelled.

The dependency of claim 17 has been changed to depend from claim 19. In claim 17, line 1, replace "claim 16" with --claim 19--.

In claim 19, line 1, delete "The method of claim 16," and insert

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--A method of controlling a circuit that comprises a photosensitive component and a switch, the method comprising:

providing to a control terminal of the switch, a signal having a first voltage level;

providing to the control terminal of the switch, a signal having a second voltage level; and

providing to the control terminal of the switch, a signal having a transition from the first voltage level to the second voltage level, a duration of the transition being controlled,--.

Claim 20 has been cancelled.

New claim 21 has been added to read as follows: "The method of claim 19, wherein the transition is controlled according to a determined law".

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 2, prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest a MOS transistor of a first conductivity type connected to a voltage source at the second level and to a control line wherein the control line is connected to the gate of the transfer MOS transistor, and a MOS transistor of a second conductivity type connected to the control line and to a terminal of a constant current source wherein another terminal of the constant current source is connected to a voltage source at the first level, in addition to the other limitations of the claim.

With respect to claims 6 and 19, prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest the transition is controlled such that the signal has an intermediate stage of zero slop during the transition.

With respect to claim 10, prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest a MOS transistor of a first conductivity type coupled to a control terminal, a second MOS transistor of a second conductivity type coupled to the control terminal and to a first terminal of a constant current source, a second terminal of the constant current source coupled to a voltage source that provides the first voltage level, in addition to the other limitations of the claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Telephone/Fax Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Suez Ellis whose telephone number is (571) 272-2868. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5pm (Monday-Friday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Georgia Epps can be reached on (571) 272-2328. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Stephone B. Allen
Primary Examiner